

NORTH COAST COMMUNICATOR

Update

C/O N8ETY
3717 Woodway
Parma Oh. 44134



FEBRUARY 1984

no. 1A vol. 2

THE NORTH COAST 145.29 REPEATER DEVELOPED A PROBLEM DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY. THE SYSTEM TOTALLY WENT OFF OF THE AIR ON JANUARY 4TH AT 11PM WHEN THE POWER SUPPLY PASS TRANSISTORS FAILED.

THE POWER SUPPLY PASS TRANSISTORS, AND TWO RESISTORS WERE REPLACED THE FOLLOWING DAY, HOWEVER, THE SYSTEM WOULD NOT OPERATE USING THE RF POWER AMP WITHIN THE TRANSMITTER. THE SYSTEM WAS PUT BACK OPERATIONAL RUNNING REDUCED POWER (EXCITER ONLY) RUNNING 4 WATTS OUT OF THE DUPLEXER DURING THE EVENING OF JANUARY 5TH.

SPECTRUM COMMUNICATIONS REQUESTED THAT THE REPEATER BE SENT BACK FOR WARRENTY WORK.

THE SCR1000 REPEATER WAS SHIPPED BACK ON THE MORNING OF JANUARY 14TH.

A TEMPORARY REPEATER WAS ESTABLISHED CONSISTING OF A PACE COMMUNICATOR II TRANSCEIVER (3 1/2 WATTS OUT OF THE DUPLEXER) AND A HAMTRONICS TWO METER RECEIVER, AND A FEW MISCELLANEOUS PARTS. THAT REMAINED IN SERVICE UNTIL THE MAIN SPECTRUM SCR1000 RETURNED ON JANUARY 27TH.

SPECTRUM FOUND THAT THE OUTPUT TUNING CAPACITOR WAS SHORTING AND ARCING ON THE RF POWER AMP BOARD WHICH PROBABLY CAUSED THE POWER SUPPLY FAILURE.

THEY HAVE REPAIRED THE UNIT AND WE ARE PLEASED TO REPORT THAT THUS FAR THE REPEATER IS WORKING FINE.

AS A RESULT OF THIS FAILURE, STEPS ARE BEING MADE TO ESTABLISH A BACK-UP REPEATER. ALL OF THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT THAT WILL BE USED HAS BEEN COLLECTED TOGETHER AND SHOULD BE IN COMPLETE OPERATION BY LATE FEBRUARY.

THIS BACK-UP REPEATER WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE SAME RACK AS THE MAIN REPEATER SO IT WOULD BE VERY CONVENIENT TO SWITCH TO THE BACK-UP MACHINE IF EVER NEEDED.

APPARENTLY, THERE HAVE BEEN QUITE A FEW SPECTRUM SCR1000 REPEATERS THAT HAVE HAD POWER SUPPLY AND TRANSMITTER DIFFICULTIES. HOPEFULLY, ALL OF THE BUGS IN THE NORTH COAST REPEATER HAVE BEEN RUNG OUT NOW.

THE FOLLOWING WAS COPIED FROM JANUARY, 1984 QST.

COPIES ARE BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL NORTH COAST MEMBERS AS SEVERAL RECENT SITUATIONS HAVE OCCURED ON THE 145.290 NORTH COAST REPEATER.

THESE SITUATIONS HAVE REACHED A POINT BEYOND HAVING JUST PLAIN FUN AND WILL HAVE TO BE CONTROLLED IN THE FUTURE. READ THE ARTICLE AND THINK ABOUT ITS CONTENT. ASSUME AT ALL TIMES THAT WHEN WE ARE ON THE AIR THAT THERE IS AN AUDIENCE WHO IS LISTENING OUT THERE SOMEWHERE. I DON'T THINK THAT ANYONE OF US REALLY WANTS TO OFFEND ANYONE ELSE WHO MAYBE LISTENING.

QUOTE

FM/RPT

Conducted By Stan Horzepa,* WA1LOU

Freedom of Speech, on the Air

Occasionally, situations arise that cannot be avoided, and someone has to grab the bull by the proverbial horns. The situation today is the so-called "free speech movement" that is permeating some of our repeaters and has resulted in the loss of license by some of its proponents.

Ear of the Beholder

When the Supreme Court tried to define pornography, one Justice commented that he knew it when he saw it. His comment illustrates the difficulty of formulating a definition for something that is very subjective. Simply, the Justice was saying that pornography is in the eye of the beholder: What is pornographic to one person may not be pornographic to another.

Obscenity is similar to pornography in its subjectivity. A certain four-letter word may offend one person, yet the same word may not offend another. This is the crux of the problem when "obscenity" is used in the Amateur Radio world (as well as in the real world).

Real World Vs. Radio World

A roomful of people may agree that certain

words are not obscene. They can use the words freely without offending anyone in that room. However, if the door to the room is opened and a passerby happens to hear someone in the room using those words, the passerby may or may not be offended. To be sure that the roomful of people do not offend those outside, they either have to shut the door or not use the words.

The users of a particular repeater may also agree that certain words are not offensive to those users and that those words can be spoken over the air freely. A repeater does not have a door that can be closed, however. What is said on a repeater is not limited to shouting distance, as in our imaginary room. Rather, what is said on the repeater is transmitted over many miles and may be heard by many hams and nonhams alike, including some who do not prescribe to that repeater's style of "free speech." Since you cannot shut out this audience, the repeater users either must stifle their speech or shut off their repeater.

Some may argue that if people are offended by what they hear on their radio, they should

shut it off. The weakness of this argument is that the damage has already been done. No one can anticipate what will be heard on the radio; thus, listeners must actually hear the obscenity before they can attempt to counteract it. But it is too late; they have already been offended.

Decency, the Common Variety

My argument against the use of obscenities in Amateur Radio is not based on a legal premise. The courts, the *Constitution* or statutes offer no stable ground from which to formulate an argument. Rather, my argument is based on something that is common to all civilized people in all lands — common decency.

In general, our hobby is populated by ladies and gentlemen. Most of them do not use certain words on the air and, in return, do not wish to hear certain words on the air, either. So, if one is prone to use certain words over the air, there is a high probability that he or she will offend someone. If you feel you cannot express yourself without using certain potentially offensive words, you are in the wrong hobby. End of sermon.

UNQUOTE

THE FOLLOWING WAS COPIED FROM FEBRUARY, 1964 SET.

COPIES ARE BEING AVAILABLE TO ALL NORTH COAST MEMBERS AS SEVERAL
RECENT SITUATIONS HAVE OCCURRED ON THE LAST TWO NORTH COAST MEETINGS.

THESE SITUATIONS HAVE REQUIRED A NIGHT BEFORE WRITING JUST PLAIN AND
WILL HAVE TO BE COMPLETED IN THE FUTURE. READ THE ARTICLE AND THINK
ABOUT ITS CONTENT. PEOPLE AT ALL TIMES THAT WHEN WE ARE ON THE AIR
THAT THERE IS AN AUDIENCE WHO IS LISTENING BUT THERE HOWEVER, I DON'T
THINK THAT ANYONE OF US REALLY WANTS TO OPEN ANYONE ELSE WHO WANTS
TO LISTENING.

WHITE

Continued on the reverse, page 2

FM/RPT

Freedom of Speech, on the Air

There is a great deal of discussion about the right of free speech, and it is a subject that is often discussed in the context of the First Amendment. The First Amendment is a part of the Bill of Rights, and it guarantees the right of free speech to all citizens. This right is one of the most important rights that we have as citizens, and it is one that is often taken for granted. However, it is important to remember that this right is not absolute, and it is subject to certain limitations. One of the most common limitations on the right of free speech is the prohibition against libel and slander. These are laws that are designed to protect individuals from false and defamatory statements. Another common limitation is the prohibition against hate speech. Hate speech is speech that is designed to incite violence or hatred against a particular group of people. These are just a few examples of the limitations on the right of free speech. It is important to understand these limitations in order to exercise our right of free speech properly.

Let us now discuss the right of free speech.

When we discuss the right of free speech, we are usually referring to the right of individuals to express their opinions and beliefs without fear of government retaliation. This right is one of the most important rights that we have as citizens, and it is one that is often taken for granted. However, it is important to remember that this right is not absolute, and it is subject to certain limitations. One of the most common limitations on the right of free speech is the prohibition against libel and slander. These are laws that are designed to protect individuals from false and defamatory statements. Another common limitation is the prohibition against hate speech. Hate speech is speech that is designed to incite violence or hatred against a particular group of people. These are just a few examples of the limitations on the right of free speech. It is important to understand these limitations in order to exercise our right of free speech properly.

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LEGISLATURE

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SATTELLITE INFORMATION EXCHANGE

AFTER THE SUCCESS AND EXCITEMENT OF THE "STS-9" MISSION BACK IN NOVEMBER OF LAST YEAR, INTEREST HAS SPREAD TOWARDS THE VARIOUS AMATEUR SATELLITES CURRENTLY ORBITING OUR PLANET. SEVERAL MEMBERS HAVE TAKEN UP LISTENING TO THEM, SOME HAVE MANAGED TO TALK THROUGH THEM, WHILE OTHERS ARE STILL TRYING TO FIND THEM!!

IN AN EFFORT TO HELP THOSE WHO HAVE ANY OF THE ABOVE INTEREST, SEVERAL NORTH COAST MEMBERS HAVE ENCOURAGED AN "AMATEUR SATELLITE" INFORMATION EXCHANGE.

THIS INFORMATION IS BEING MADE AVAILABLE USING THE FOLLOWING MEANS:

- A) UP TO DATE ORBITAL INFORMATION I.E. TIMES, AZIMUTHS, ELEVATIONS, ETC. ARE BEING HANDLED BY DIRECT MAIL. THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION CAN DO SO BY SENDING SEVERAL SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED #10 ENVELOPES TO: N8ETY
THE INFORMATION THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE WILL BE GOOD FOR TWO WEEKS WORTH OF ORBITS. THE INFO. WILL BE MAILED OUT EVERY TWO WEEKS. WHEN YOUR DOWN TO YOUR LAST ENVELOPE YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED.
- B) THERE WILL BE A NET ON THE 145.29 NORTH COAST REPEATER STARTING THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16, 1984 AT 8:30 P.M.. THE PURPOSE WILL BE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, TALK ABOUT THE SATELLITES AVAILABLE FOR OUR USE, AND ANY OTHER TOPICS CONCERNING AMATEUR SATELLITES. HOPE TO HEAR FROM EVERYONE INTERESTED.
- C) AN INFORMATION PACKET CONTAINING MUCH INFORMATION HAS BEEN ASSEMBLED BY WAYNE N8FGR AND DAVE N8ETY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS PACKET, PLEASE SEND A SELF ADDRESSED 9-x 12 ENVELOPE WITH AT LEAST 71 CENTS POSTAGE TO: N8ETY (ADR ON TOP OF 1ST PAGE)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT DAVE N8ETY, OR WAYNE N8FGR ON THE 145.29 NORTH COAST REPEATER.

SATELLITE INFORMATION EXCHANGE

AFTER THE SUCCESS AND EXCITEMENT OF THE "STB-2" MISSION BACK IN NOVEMBER OF LAST YEAR, INTEREST HAS GROWN TOWARD THE VARIOUS AMATEUR SATELLITES CURRENTLY ORBITING OUR PLANET. SEVERAL MEMBERS HAVE TAKEN UP LISTENING TO THEM, SOME HAVE MANAGED TO TALK THROUGH THEM, WHILE OTHERS ARE STILL TRYING TO FIND THEM!

IN AN EFFORT TO HELP THOSE WHO HAVE ANY OF THE ABOVE INTEREST, SEVERAL NORTH COAST MEMBERS HAVE ENCOURAGED AN "AMATEUR SATELLITE" INFORMATION EXCHANGE.

THIS INFORMATION IS BEING MADE AVAILABLE USING THE FOLLOWING MEANS:

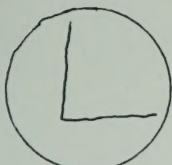
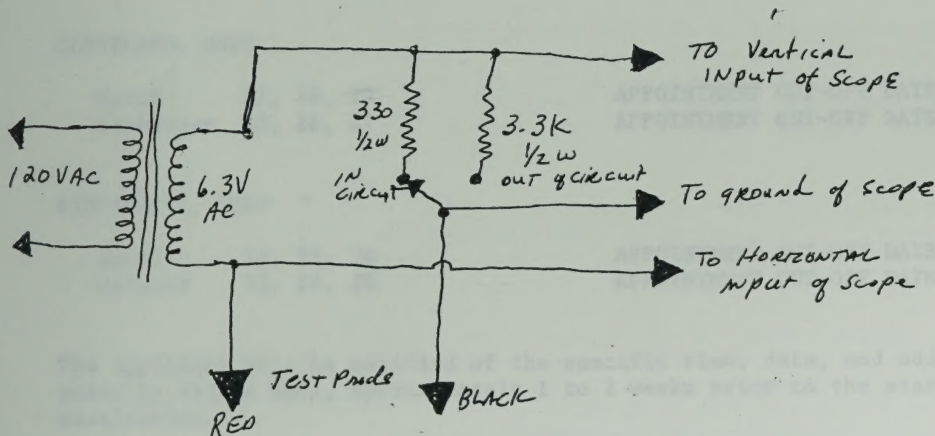
- A) UP TO DATE ORBITAL INFORMATION I.E. TIMES, ALTITUDE, ELEVATIONS, ETC. ARE BEING HANDLED BY DIRECT MAIL. THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION CAN DO SO BY SENDING SEVERAL SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED #10 ENVELOPES TO: NABTY THE INFORMATION THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE WILL BE SENT FOR TWO WEEKS. NORTH OF ORBIT, THE INFO. WILL BE MAILED OUT EVERY TWO WEEKS. WHEN YOUR BOMB TO YOUR LAST ENVELOPE YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED.
 - B) THERE WILL BE A NET ON THE 1-2-59 NORTH COAST REPEATER STARTING THURSDAY FEBRUARY 14, 1964 AT 8:30 P.M. THE AIRBORNE WILL BE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, TALK ABOUT THE SATELLITES AVAILABLE FOR OUR USE, AND ANY OTHER TOPICS CONCERNING AMATEUR SATELLITES. HOPE TO HEAR FROM EVERYONE INTERESTED.
 - C) AN INFORMATION PACKET CONTAINING MUCH INFORMATION HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY MANY MEMBERS AND HAVE NABTY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS PACKET, PLEASE SEND A SELF-ADDRESSED 9 x 12 ENVELOPE WITH AT LEAST 10 CENTS POSTAGE TO: NABTY (BOX 10) 1ST FLOOR, 1000 W. 10TH AVE. S. SPOKANE, ID. 83402.
- IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT GUY NABTY. OR HAVE MORE ON THE 1-2-59 NORTH COAST REPEATER.

From: B03
K8TZ

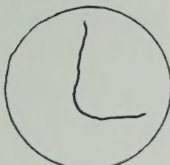
TRANSISTOR CURVE TRACER

A curve tracer is a simple and reliable instrument for checking transistors. It is used in conjunction with an oscilloscope. A schematic diagram of a curve tracer is shown below along with out of circuit traces.

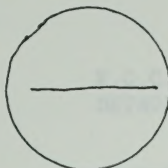
When checking transistors out-of-circuit, the main point of interest is the knee of the curve. A sharp bend usually indicates that the transistor junction is good. A straight horizontal line indicates an open junction and a straight vertical line indicates a shorted junction. If the supply voltage in the curve tracer exceeds the PIV of the transistor junction under test, zener action may occur. This is indicated by a very short vertical line at one end of the trace and is of no consequence. When transistors are checked in-circuit traces may not appear since associated resistors and/or capacitors in the circuit may create trace variations. Therefore, when checking transistors in-circuit a comparative method must be used.



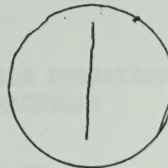
GOOD



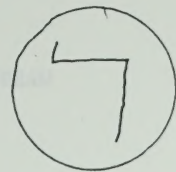
LEAKAGE



OPEN



SHORTED



ZENER
GOOD

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
1054 FEDERAL BLDG. & U.S. CTSE.
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226
PHONE: AREA CODE 313-226-6078

RADIO OPERATOR EXAMINATIONS FOR 1984

The Detroit FCC field office will conduct Commercial and Amateur radio operator examinations during the year 1984 as listed below. Applications for examinations must be received in this office by the Appointment Cut-off Date. They also must have the original (or xerox copy for Amateur) license attached to the form and the form must indicate the city and month in which you desire to take the examination. Failure to do this will require the return of your application. The return of any application for any reason may delay or omit scheduling for the requested examination.

DO NOT SEND ANY FEES! APPLICATIONS FEES WERE SUSPENDED AS OF JANUARY 1, 1977.

Identification is required for examinations!

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL EXAMINATIONS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY!

DETROIT DISTRICT OFFICE

February 6 thru February 10, 1984
May 7 thru May 11, 1984
August 6 thru August 10, 1984
November 5 thru November 9, 1984

APPOINTMENT CUT-OFF DATE...January 15, 1984
APPOINTMENT CUT-OFF DATE...April 15, 1984
APPOINTMENT CUT-OFF DATE...July 15, 1984
APPOINTMENT CUT-OFF DATE...October 15, 1984

CLEVELAND, OHIO

March 27, 28, 29
September 25, 26, 27

APPOINTMENT CUT-OFF DATE...March 5, 1984
APPOINTMENT CUT-OFF DATE...September 3, 1984

CINCINNATI, OHIO

April 24, 25, 26
October 23, 24, 25

APPOINTMENT CUT-OFF DATE...April 2, 1984
APPOINTMENT CUT-OFF DATE...October 1, 1984

The applicant will be notified of the specific time, date, and address of the examination point by return mail, approximately 1 to 2 weeks prior to the start of the announced examination.

Calculators which have a constant memory, are programmable, or contain a printout sheet will not be permissible.

F.C.C. FIELD OPERATIONS BUREAU
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

How To Repair An Electronic Instrument

Step 1.

Approach the ailing instrument in a confident manner. This will give the instrument the mistaken idea that you know something. It will also impress anyone who happens to be looking, and if the instrument should suddenly start working, you will be credited with its repair. If this step fails to work, proceed to Step 2.

Step 2.

Wave the service manual at the instrument. This will make it assume that you are at least familiar with the source of knowledge. Should this step fail to work, proceed to Step 3.

Step 3.

In a forcible manner, recite Ohm's Law to the instrument (caution: before taking this step, refer to some reliable handbook to be sure of your knowledge of Ohm's Law). This will prove to the instrument, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that you know something. This is a drastic step and should be attempted only if the first two fail. If this step fails to work, proceed to Step 4.

Step 4.

Jar the instrument slightly. This may require anything from a three to six foot drop, preferably on a concrete floor. However, you must be careful with this step because, while jarring is an approved method of repair, you must not mar the floor. Again, this is a very drastic step. If it fails proceed to Step 5.

Step 5.

Brandish a large screwdriver in a menacing manner. This will frighten the instrument and demonstrate your knowledge of the deadly "short circuit" technique. Proceed to Step 6.

Step 6.

Add a tube . . . even if the instrument is solid state. This will prove that you are familiar with the instrument's design. This will confuse the instrument and thereby increase your advantage. If this doesn't work, proceed to the most drastic and dangerous step. It is seldom needed and is a final resort if all else fails!

Step 7.

THINK . . . !

How To Spot A Flawed Instrument

Step 1

Approach the salesperson in a courteous manner. This will give the instrument the initial idea that you know something. It will also impress anyone who happens to be looking. If the instrument should suddenly start working, you will be credited with its repair. If this step fails to work, proceed to Step 2.

Step 2

When the service starts at the instrument, this will make it easier for you and at least familiar with the source of trouble. Should not say fail to work, proceed to Step 3.

Step 3

In a friendly manner, recall your own Law to the instrument. Remember, before taking this step, recall to some reliable person to be sure of your knowledge of your Law. They will point to the instrument, beyond the shadow of a doubt that you know something. This is a classic step and should be attempted only if the first two fail. If this step fails to work, proceed to Step 4.

Step 4

Let the instrument testify. This may require anything from a little to a lot of testimony on a concrete floor. However, you must be careful not to say because, while having is an approved method of repair, you must not say the floor. Again, this is a very classic step. If it fails, proceed to Step 5.

Step 5

Remember a large scientific in a measuring manner. This will involve the instrument and demonstrate your knowledge of the clearly "known" situation. Proceed to Step 6.

Step 6

Now a time... even if the instrument is solid state. You will know that you are familiar with the instrument's operation. This will involve the instrument and thereby increase your knowledge. If the instrument were needed to the point of failure, you would know it is a solid state and a failure. It is also true.

Step 7

Thank